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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : William Girzone
Serial No.: 09/770,003
Filed : 1/25/2001
Title : GAS BLOCKING DEVICE FOR OPTICAL FIBER REPEATER

Art Unit : 2882
Examiner : George Y. Wang
Docket No.: Girzone 2

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 1, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

☒ Please cancel claims 10-20, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims 21-22:

21. The optical fiber device according to claim 4, wherein said passageway in said fiber containing body includes a narrow portion having an inside diameter dimensioned such that said fibers act as strength members within said adhesive in said narrow portion of said passageway.

22. The optical fiber device according to claim 21 wherein the ratio of the cross-sectional area of said fibers to the cross-sectional area of said narrow portion is about $\frac{1}{2}$.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION 37 CFR §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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Date: 10/14/2002

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Heather Woods
Signature

Heather Woods
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